

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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-----093888 292058Z /41

R 291209Z JUN 78
FM AMCONSUL TURIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0904
INFO USDOC, WASHDCRUFK/AMEMBASSY ROME 1589
AMCONSUL MILAN

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 TURIN 0269

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, IT
SUBJ: MAJOR PROJECT: CONSTRUCTION OF WASTE WATER PURIFICATION PLANT, TURIN

REF: USDOC 11306 (NOTAL)

TO: LEOPOLD CO.
227 SOUTH DIV. ST.
ZELIENOPLE, PA. 16063
PHONE (412) 452-6300
TELEX NO. 8664-4

1. US COMMERCE DEPARTMENT RECENTLY INSTRUCTED US TO RESPOND TO YOUR INQUIRY RE POSSIBILITY OF FORWARDING BIDS FOR PLANNED CONSTRUCTION OF WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT IN TURIN, ITALY.

2. BACKGROUND
INTERNATIONAL BIDDING OPERATIONS FOR THIS MAJOR PROJECT WERE FIRST OPENED IN NOVEMBER, 1974, AND WERE DIRECTLY ORGANIZED BY "UFFICIO TECNICO LAVORI PUBBLICI, CITTA DI TORINO." A FEW MONTHS THEREAFTER, SEVERAL ITALIAN/FOREIGN (BUT REPORTEDLY NO U.S.) TENDERS WERE RECEIVED AND AT LEAST TWO OF THEM WERE ACCEPTED FOR CONSIDERATION. HOWEVER, DUE
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TO LACK OF PUBLIC FUNDS (TO BE FURNISHED BY PIEDMONT REGIONAL/MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATIONS) NEEDED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT WITH RELATED INFRASTRUCTURES AND OTHER CITY PLANNING ADJUSTMENTS, VALIDITY OF BIDS ON FILE ULTIMATELY LAPSED.

IN LATTER PART OF 1975, WE DISCOVERED THAT ALLOCATION

OF ABOVE PUBLIC FUNDS WAS "FORTHCOMING" AND THAT ANNOUNCEMENT OF SECOND ROUND OF BIDS WOULD FOLLOW AS A RESULT. ON THE OTHER HAND WE WERE FRANKLY INFORMED BY COMPETENT LOCAL OFFICIALS OF "A PREDICTABLE DRAWBACK FOR INTERESTED U.S. BIDDERS, SINCE PREVIOUSLY FILED TENDERS (ESPECIALLY THOSE PRESENTED BY ITALIAN FIAT ENGINEERING DIVISION AND BY FRENCH DEGRENON COMPANY) WILL ENJOY BENEFIT OF PRIORITY."

HOWEVER, CONTRARY TO EXPECTATIONS, REQUIRED FUNDS WERE AFTER ALL NOT ALLOCATED IN TIME, SO THAT AROUND MID-1976 ALL OPERATIONS WERE ONCE AGAIN SUSPENDED "UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE."

IN SEPTEMBER, 1977, WE WERE OFFICIALLY NOTIFIED THAT A NEW SPECIAL ORGANIZATION (NAMED "CONSORZIO PO-SANGONE") HAD JUST BEEN ESTABLISHED IN TURIN FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESUMING BIDDING ACTIVITIES - "SINCE NEEDED PUBLIC FUNDS SHOULD SOON BECOME AVAILABLE." ALTHOUGH NO BETTER GUARANTEES THAN USUAL WERE BEING PROVIDED BY OUR CONTACTS WITH RESPECT TO PUBLIC FINANCING, WE CONTINUED TO FOLLOW DEVELOPMENTS.

3. FOLLOWING IS LATEST AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON CURRENT STATUS OF PROJECT AS REPORTED TO US BY APPROPRIATE LOCAL AUTHORITIES:

A. BIDDING (NUMBER THREE) WAS ANNOUNCED BY ABOVE-
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MENTIONED "CONSORZIO PO-SANGONE," TURIN, SEPTEMBER 27, 1977. AS CUSTOMARY, BIDDING WAS ADVERTISED IN U.S. (NEW YORK TIMES) AS WELL AS IN SWITZERLAND, LUXEMBOURG (EEC BULLETIN), FRANCE, WEST GERMANY AND U.K. PRELIMINARY BIDS WERE TO BE FILED BY NOVEMBER 30, 1977# COMPLETE PROJECTS IN FINAL VERSION SHOULD NOW BE PRESENTED NO LATER THAN JULY 31, 1978.

B. ONLY GENERAL INFORMATION OBTAINABLE REGARDING SIZE AND SCOPE OF FACILITIES IS THAT PLANT'S FINAL CAPACITY SHOULD REACH 900 THOUSAND CUBIC METERS OF PROCESSED WASTE WATER PER DAY. COMPLETE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS SHOULD BE REQUESTED BY INTERESTED BIDDERS DIRECTLY FROM:

ING. PAOLO ROMANO, DIRETTORE
CONSORZIO PO-SANGONE
PIAZZA SAN GIOVANNI 5,
10122 TORINO, ITALY
TEL. 011/5765.

C. FOR THIS THIRD ROUND OF BIDS, LOCAL AUTHORITIES HAVE STATED TO US THAT HIGHEST PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO TENDERS PRESENTED BY "CONSORTIA OF COMPANIES" IN WHICH "FOREIGN PARTICIPATION IS PERMITTED." NO SUBCONTRACTING

IS OFFICIALLY CONTEMPLATED. CURRENT BIDDING IS LIMITED TO ONE INITIAL PORTION OF PROJECT. MORE SEPARATE BIDS ARE ANTICIPATED TO COVER ADDITIONAL PORTIONS, WITH NEXT BID TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR END OF 1980.

NOTE BY OC/T: TURIN 269 PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE.

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INFO USDO WASHDC
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL MILAN

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... END OF 1980.

D. AS STATED TO US BY ING. ROMANO, "EVER-MISSING PUBLIC FUNDS HAVE NOW (I.E., AS OF JUNE 26) PRACTICALLY BEEN SECURED, WITH CONTRIBUTIONS TO COME FROM CITY OF TURIN AND ANOTHER TEN MUNICIPALITIES INVOLVED IN "CONSORZIO PO-SANGONE" ORGANIZATION, AND WITH PIEDMONT REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION EXPECTED TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FINANCING."

4. COMMENTS

WHILE POSSIBLE THAT DIFFICULTIES IN RECEIVING PUBLIC

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PROJECT MAY FINALLY HAVE BEEN OVERCOME,
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THERE ARE AS YET NO HARD-AND-FAST GUARANTEES IN THIS RESPECT.

PAST EXPERIENCE INDICATES OFFICIAL ASSURANCES WE HAD HAD
ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS REGARDING "IMMEDIATE AVAILABILITY"
OF SUCH FUNDS UNTIMATELY PROVED GROUNDLESS. UNLESS AND
UNTIL SUCH FUNDS ARE DEFINITELY MADE AVAILABLE, THIS
THIRD BIDDING IS LIKEWISE FATED TO FAIL ITS PURPOSE.

STATED OFFICIAL INCLINATION TO FAVOR TENDERS SUBMITTED
BY CONSORTIA (MOSTLY MADE UP OF ITALIAN COMPANIES) WOULD
MAKE IT DESIRABLE (THOUGH FAIRLY DIFFICULT) FOR ANY
INTERESTED U.S. PARTIES TO APPROACH NOT-EASILY-IDENTIFIABLE
LOCAL MEMBER COMPANIES INVOLVED IN SUCH CONSORTIA IN
ORDER TO BE ACCEPTED AS JOINT PARTICIPANTS IN BIDDING.

IN VIEW OF ESTABLISHED DEADLINE (JULY 31) FOR BIDDERS
PRESENTATION OF PROJECTS IN FINAL FORM, PARTICIPATION AT THIS
LATE STAGE IS PROBABLY UNREALISTIC. NEVERTHELESS,
LEOPOLD CO. SHOULD FEEL FREE TO COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH
ING. PAOLO ROMANO AT ADDRESS PROVIDED UNDER PARA 3 (B)
ABOVE. ING. ROMANO NOW AWARE OF YOUR SPECIFIC INTEREST. HE
PROMISED TO KEEP YOUR COMPANY AND TURIN CONSULATE DIRECTLY
INFORMED OF PERTINENT FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS, AND TO SUPPLY YOU
WITH ANY AVAILABLE TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION ON WHICH FUTURE
BIDS SHOULD BE BASED.
PILLSBURY

NOTE BY OC/T: PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE.

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